



TO: Pennsylvania Parole Board Members

FROM: Farrah Conjar
Executive Secretary II to the Chairperson

DATE: June 6, 2022

RE: Board Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2022

In compliance with *Act 175*, known as the *Sunshine Law*, effective September 17, 1976, the Office of Board Secretary provided notification to the public of the scheduled meeting on May 18, 2022 of the Pennsylvania Parole Board.

The public meeting convened at 9:00 AM at Riverfront Office Center in Harrisburg, PA with Chairperson Theodore Johnson presiding. A quorum of Board Members was present.

Attendance

- | | | |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson Ted Johnson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Leo Dunn | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Tony Moscato |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Marcus Brown | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Jim Fox | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Linda Rosenberg |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Khadija Diggs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Mark Koch | |
| | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alan Robinson, Chief Counsel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deb Carpenter, Board Secretary | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neil Malady, Policy/Legislative Affairs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Woolf, Director – Office of Board Secretary | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Hearing Examiner Mike Potteiger | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Treaster, Special Assistant | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Morgan Davis, Assistant Counsel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meghan Dade, SOAB Executive Director | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Janaki Theivakumaran, SOAB Exec. Asst. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suzanne Estrella, Office of Victim Advocate | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tara Gross, Director of Victim Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Manning, Deputy Chief Counsel DOC | |

Chairperson Johnson recognized public guests:
Mark Bergstrom, Pennsylvania Sentencing Commission

APPROVAL OF APRIL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Member Moscato motioned to approve the April 20, 2022 Parole Board minutes. Board Member Brown seconded the motion. The Parole Board unanimously approved the minutes.

OFFICE AND STAFF REPORTS

Office of Victim Advocate (OVA) Report

Victim Advocate Suzanne Estrella

- Thanked those who participated in the Victim's Rights Rally.

Sexual Offenders Assessment Board (SOAB)

Executive Director Megan Dade

- Gave a presentation on Pennsylvania Juvenile Sexual Offenders Civil Commitment Program known as ACT 21.

Communications/Media Report

Special Assistant Laura Treaster

- Update on recidivism data report. Received email confirmation from the DOC Statistical Office that the CPV and TPV data the Parole Board requested should be received in mid-June 2022.

Policy and Legislative Affairs Report

Policy and Legislative Affairs Director Neil Malady

- House and Senate will be back June 6 until budget is completed.
- Elizabeth Bolton Penna was nominated by the Governor's Office to replace BM Barden's remaining term. Meetings for Ms. Penna to visit with individual senators are being scheduled.
- The names have to be on Senate nomination calendar for 10 session days.

Office of Chief Counsel Report

Chief Counsel Alan Robinson

- The Scott case is still undecided; this is the PA Supreme Court case that claimed our statute which states that the Board cannot release life-sentenced inmates is unconstitutional.
- May 31, 2022 new intern Nikolas Dimitrakopoulos will be starting. He is studying at Fordham University.

Office of Hearing Examiners Report

Chief Hearing Examiner Michael Potteiger

- On May 23, 2022, Michael Micciche will start in his new Hearing Examiner position. The overall training will take about two months.
- Made a conditional offer for Hearing Coordinator. Currently going through the background check, then all of the Hearing Coordinator positions will be filled.

Board Secretary Report

Board Secretary Deb Carpenter

- Update on the OVR presentation from last month's meeting. I have met with Reentry Services about DOC staff completing the referral process prior to interview. Will provide an update once the OVR staff receives permission from their chain of command.
- In 2019 when Director Woolf took over as Director in the Office of Board Secretary, there was a high error rate which was unacceptable. An Administrative Remedies Unit was created and the error rate after creating this division, along with some other improvements has reduced that error rate to an acceptable number. Scott Woolf, Cara Sheffield and Board Secretary staff are doing a fantastic job and they should be recognized for a job well done.

Board Secretary Office Report

Board Secretary Office Director Scott Woolf

- Shannon Gale is one of the new Parole Managers, she was a previous Field Hearing Agent.
- Continuing to work on the E361. It is his hope testing will take place at the end of June.

Mark Bergstrom reported the Commission is starting public hearings May 31, 2022 and June 1, 2022 on proposals around the parole guidelines and recommitment ranges. Anticipate adoption by the Commission and submitting to general assembly for review and hope to be on target by the start of next year.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:57 AM Board Member Fox made a motion to adjourn the public session. The motion was seconded by Board Member Moscato. The Board Members voted unanimously to adjourn the public session.